From: Leslie Mullican for Michael J.

Attorney Docket: 112.P14202

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## **REMARKS**

## Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance

The Examiner's statements of reasons for allowance are hereby acknowledged by Assignee. Assignee agrees that claimed subject matter is patentably distinct from the documents cited by the Examiner; however, Assignee takes no position regarding the reasons for allowance presented by the Examiner, other than the positions Assignee may have previously taken during prosecution of the above-referenced patent application. Therefore, the Examiner's reasons for allowance should not be attributed to Assignee as an indication of the basis for Assignees' belief that any claims are patentably distinct. Furthermore, it is respectfully asserted that there may also be additional reasons for patentability of claimed subject matter not explicitly stated in this record. While in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.104(e), a failure by the Assignee to disagree with the Examiner, or file more detailed comments, does not give rise to any implication that the Assignee agrees with or acquiesce in the reasoning of the Examiner, here, by this document, Assignee is expressly making clear that no such agreement or acquiesce is present.

## Status of Claims

In this amendment, claims 1 and 10 have been amended to correct an inadvertent typographical error, and claims 19-26 have been added. It is respectfully submitted that there is adequate support in the specification for the amendments to claims 1 and 10, and the amendments introduce no new matter. Furthermore, amendments to the claims do not narrow the scope of the claims and, accordingly, no prosecution history estoppel should apply. Additionally, the specification supports new claims 19-26. For example, support may be found at least from paragraph [0005] – [0028], the claims as filed, and Figures 3 – 5B. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner enter the amendments to claims 1 ands 10, enter new claims 19-26, and allow all claims to proceed to allowance.

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## CONCLUSION

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In view of the foregoing amendments to the claims, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner enter these amendments so that the application may proceed to allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at (503) 439-6500.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges of any fees required for this submission to Deposit Account number 50-3703.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 2, 2006

/Michael J. Willardson/ Michael J. Willardson Patent Attorney Reg. No. 50,856

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> I hereby certify that this correspondence is being submitted via facsimile or deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

November 2, 2006

Date of Transmission

Leslie C. Mullican

Namejof Person Transmitting Correspondence

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